

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/26066

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G 01 N 33/53
US CL : 435/ 7.92

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 435/ 7.92, 7.91, 7.93, 7.94, 7.95, 4, 7.1; 436/514, 517, 518, 524, 546

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|--|
| X | US 6,200,955 B1 (HARRIS et al.) 13 March 2001 (13.03.2001), col. 17, lines 52-61. | 1, 11-16, 26-31, 33, 36 ----- 17-25, 32, 34, 35, 37- 61 |
| X | US 5,182,260 (MARAGANORE et al.) 26 January 1993 (26.01.1993), col 1, lines 22-25 | 10 |
| X | US 5,843,172 (YAN) 1 December 1998 (01.12.1998), col. 11, lines 12-13. | 65-67, 70, 71 |
| Y | US 5,306,619 (EDWARDS et al.) 26 April 1994 (26.04.1994), col. 14, lines 3-10 and col. 15, lines 17-22. | 17-25, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40-61 |
| Y | US 5,792,850 (BAUMGARTNER et al.) 11 August 1998 (11.08.1998), col. 16, lines 21- 25. | 39 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 April 2005 (27.04.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

20 MAY 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Faxsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Ann Y. Lam

Telephone No. 571-272-0822

Post Availabilty Com

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/26066

Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

a. type of material

a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

in written format
 in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

contained in the international application as filed
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

2. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

3. Additional comments: